REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 17-26, 28-32, and 34-38 are pending in this application and all the pending claims stand rejected by the examiner. Claims 1, 10, 19, 28, and 35 are independent claims. Assignee traverses the rejections.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 9-10, 28, 30-32, and 35-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0016801 (Reiley). Claims 7, 17, 19-20, 22-25, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiley in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0073872 (Yalovsky). Claims 8, 18, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiley in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0145279 (Bourbakis). Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiley and Yalovsky in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,925,595 issued to Whitledge et al. (Whitledge). Applicant respectfully disagrees that the cited references disclose the subject matter of the pending claims.

With respect to independent claims 1 and 10 of the instant application, the method disclosed in Reiley does not disclose the subject matter of the claim. The method disclosed in Reiley is specifically limited to parsing a Web document to create a data structure containing a hierarchical organization of elements from the Web document (claim 1 of Reiley). The passages from Reiley cited in the office action also acknowledge that Reiley is limited to documents that have such a hierarchical structure. For example, paragraph [0015] states:

> According to one aspect of the invention, a content transformer transforms a Web document from a first format into a second format. The content transformer retrieves a copy of the Web document, wherein the Web document comprises one or more elements that are delimited and identified by tags within the Web document; parses the Web document to create a first data structure comprised of a first hierarchical organization of elements from the Web document; conducts a

semantic analysis of the elements in the data structure; and re-arranges the elements in the first data structure based upon the semantic analysis to form a second data structure comprised of a new hierarchical organization of elements from the Web page, wherein the new hierarchical organization differs from the first hierarchical organization.

while paragraph [0065] states:

The re-arrangement may include re-organization of the nodes in the hierarchy, removal of one or more nodes from the hierarchy, merging of nodes, and the addition or revision of node identifiers. The semantic analysis and re-arrangement preferably results in a transformed hierarchical structure that properly reflects the hierarchy of the elements of the content. The operations represented by flow diagram boxes 530 and 535 are preferably recursively performed on the hierarchical structure.

As these passages and the claim language make clear, the method in Reiley is limited to analyzing documents with a hierarchical structure. While the method disclosed in the instant application may analyze documents with a hierarchical structure, it also analyzes the content properties and content formatting and can use such data to generate content summaries. The language of claims 1 and 10 has been amended to elucidate further that the claimed method may use either approach to generate content summaries. For at least these reasons, the method disclosed in Reiley does not disclose the subject matter of claims 1 and 10.

With respect to claim 19 of the instant application, the office action maintains that the claimed subject matter is unpatentable over Reiley in view of Yalovsky. First, the assignee respectfully disagrees with the assertion in the office action that "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings [of] Yalovsky and Reiley." The subject matter of Yalovsky is directed to a different art than is the subject matter of Reiley. Yet, there is no reference cited in the office action as a motivation to combine these references from disparate art.

Also, and as discussed above with respect to claim 1 of the instant application, Yalovsky does not teach a method wherein analysis of content properties and content formatting may be

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used as an alternative to analysis of content structure in order to generate content summaries. For at least these reasons, the cited references do not render unpatentable the subject matter of claim 19 in the instant application.

With respect to dependent claims 8, 18, and 29 in the instant application, the office action maintains that the claimed subject matter is unpatentable over Reiley in view of Bourbakis. The office action further maintains that "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Bourbakis and Reiley." The assignee respectfully disagrees with both contentions. First, the subject matter of Bourbakis is directed to a different art than is the subject matter of Reiley. Yet, there is no reference cited in the office action as a motivation to combine these references from disparate arts.

Also, the reference in the office action to "identifying differences in paragraph sizes in the electronic document to remove the redundant text" is not understood. The rejected claims 8, 18, and 29 make no reference to the removal of redundant text.

In addition, and as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 19 in the instant application, Bourbakis does not teach a method wherein analysis of content properties and content formatting may be used as an alternative to analysis of content structure in order to generate content summaries. For at least these reasons, the cited references do not render unpatentable the subject matter of claims 8, 18, and 29 in the instant application.

With respect to independent claim 28, the office action maintains that Reiley discloses a formatted document summarization process which generates summary information by selecting a plurality of summary entries from an electronic document based on differences in content formatting identified in the electronic document. The office action cites paragraphs [0038]-

[0041] of Reiley as support for this contention. The office action summarizes this cited passage thusly:

> the web page (electronic document) is divided into several elements including headings, paragraphs, lists, separators, graphics, tables, table item, etc…and these are content properties, and the transformer uses analysis rules to categorize the elements

However, as cited paragraph [0038] makes clear, "elements" is a structural term as used in the cited passage. Paragraph [0038] states that, "[t]he Web page 205 is divided into several logical structures or elements, including headings, paragraphs, lists, separators, graphics, tables, table items, etc." The assignee does not take a position regarding whether such elements are "content properties," as maintained in the office action, but the elements are not the same as "content formatting," as specified in the limitation of claim 28. For at least these reasons, the cited reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 28 and cannot render the claim unpatentable.
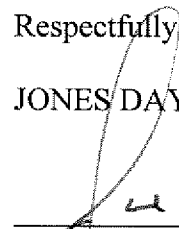
Finally, with respect to independent claim 35, the language of the claim has been amended to elucidate further that the system claimed in the instant application may rely either on the structure of the content of the electronic document or on the formatting of the content of the electronic document in order to generate summary information for electronic documents. As with the previously discussed claims, the subject matter of this claim is not disclosed in the Reiley reference, which operates only on the structure of an electronic document, not on the formatting of the content of an electronic document. For at least these reasons, the cited reference does not render claim 35 unpatentable.

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Conclusion

For at least the above reasons, the assignee submits that claims 1-5, 7-10, 17-26, 28-32, 34-36, and 38 are in condition for allowance, and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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